## APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 368 asked by Dr. A. Sreenivasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 27th August 1955, page 550 supra.]

(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Yes, Sir.

(*d*) The patient was operated upon on 12th March 1955. Owing to his bleeding tendency, he had post-operative oozing of blood from the wound. Active measures were instituted for this from the immediate post-operative period and were continued subsequently also.

As the oozing of blood continued, the wound was packed with special haemostatic gauze and then dressed, all under aseptic conditions. On 14th March 1955 all dressings were done aseptically. Antibiotics were given from 13th March 1955 in order to minimize wound infection and on 17th March 1955 a prophylactic dose of anti-tetanic serum was given. In spite of these, the wound was found infected on 19th March 1955.

On 25th March 1955 he developed signs and symptoms of tetanus.

In spite of energetic and expeditious anti-tetanic treatments, he succumbed to tetanus on 28th March 1955.

(*e*) Yes, Sir.

(*f*) Thirteen days after the operation.

(*g*) This question is rather vague in that it does not specify the period. No case of tetanus as a result of a surgical operation has occurred in the Government General Hospital, Madras, during the last three years.

(*h*) Does not arise.

(*i*) No. Several other cases were operated upon and dressed and treated in the same ward and in the same theatre as well as in the other wards and theatres of the Government General Hospital, Madras, on 12th March 1955 and the subsequent weeks. The same surgical material, catgut, gauze, etc., have been used for several of these cases. Not one among all these cases developed tetanus. Departmental enquiry has revealed that there was no negligence in the pre-operative preparation, in the operative technique or in the post-operative management. The tetanus that this patient had, was either an idiopathic one or was a latent infection that flared up because of his debilitated condition or was an accidental one, infection occurring in a sloughing wound due to faecal contamination from the patient himself.

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